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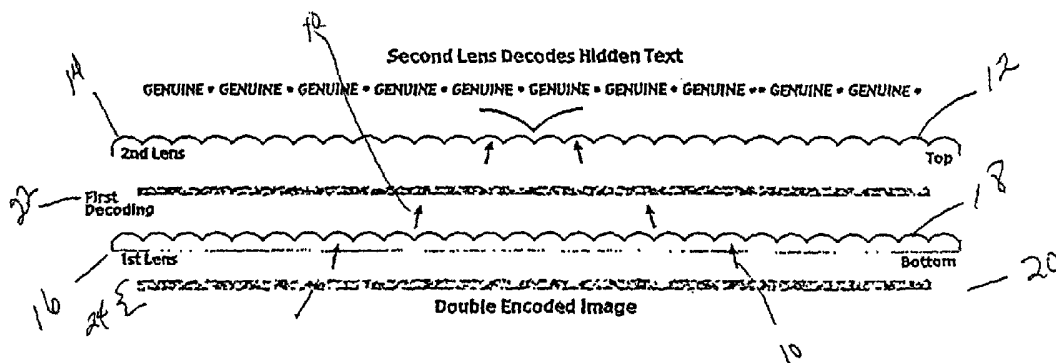
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(54) Title: MULTI-SECTION DECODING LENS



(57) **Abstract:** The present invention is a multi-section lens (14, 16) for decoding at least two encodings, as a function of the parameters of a lens section (12, 18), of at least one latent image (20), as implemented by a software program on a computer system, for security measures such as determining the authenticity of an object. The encoded latent image (20) is a function of distinct lenticular parameters which may include the frequency and lens radius of curvature (12, 18) of a particular lens section. Each section (14, 16) has a corresponding encoded latent image thus allowing for multiple latent images (20) and multiple encodings making it virtually impossible to counterfeit the encoded object (24) or the decoding apparatus.



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1 MULTI-SECTION DECODING LENS

2

3 FIELD OF THE INVENTION

4 This invention relates generally to the field of
5 counterfeit-detererring images and more and specifically to a
6 method and apparatus for producing multiple counterfeit-
7 detererring images separately decodable by a multi-section lens.

8

9 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 To prevent unauthorized duplicates or alteration of
11 documents, indicia or a background pattern can be provided.
12 For instance, documents including tickets, checks, passports,
13 banknotes, currency, product labels and the like may be easily
14 counterfeited if counterfeit-detererring images are not employed.
15 The indicia imposed upon a document is typically performed by
16 a printing process such as offset printing, lithography,
17 letterpress or other like mechanical systems or through a
18 variety of photographic methods, by xeroprinting, and a host of
19 other methods. The patterns or indicia may be reproduced with
20 ordinary inks, from special inks which may be magnetic,
21 fluorescent, or the like, from powders which may be baked on,
22 from light sensitive materials such as silver salts or azo
23 dyes, and the like. Most of these patterns placed on sheet
24 materials depend upon complexity and resolution to avoid ready

1 duplication. Consequently, they add an increment of cost to
2 the sheet material without being fully effective in many
3 instances in providing the desired protection from unauthorized
4 duplication or alteration.

5 Various methods of counterfeit-deterrent strategies have
6 been suggested including Moire-inducing line structures,
7 variable-sized dot patterns, latent images, see-through bars,
8 bar codes, and diffraction based holograms. However, none of
9 these methods employs a true encoded image or the added
10 security benefits derived therefrom.

11 The instant inventor has been awarded a number of patents
12 on various encoding processes including U.S. Patent Nos.
13 3,937,565; 3,524,395; 4,092,654; 4,198,147; 4,914,700; and
14 5,708,717 the contents of which are herein incorporated by
15 reference. U.S. Patent No. 5,708,717 discloses a system and
16 method for a Digital Anti-counterfeiting Software Method and
17 Apparatus wherein a latent image was placed onto a source image
18 implemented by a computer software program, such that the
19 latent image is only visible when viewed through a special
20 decoder lens. These principles and embodiments are hereby
21 incorporated by reference.

22 The greater the frequency the greater the complexity of
23 the encoding and thus the greater the difficulty in
24 counterfeiting a product that has been encoded utilizing the

1 inventor's technology. However, it has been found that the use
2 of images encoded by multiple frequencies making them readable
3 by different lens or a combination thereof has produced a new
4 and unique level of encoding. Accordingly, what is needed in
5 the art is a method and apparatus for producing multiple
6 counterfeit-detering images that can be decoded individually
7 or together by a lens having multiple active decoding sections
8 or layers, or by use of a combination of lenses. The multiple
9 images provide an increasingly complex encoding of latent
10 images for enhancing security.

11 The instant invention includes a lens having at least two
12 active decoding sections wherein, each section may have a
13 unique frequency based upon the curvature of that lens. For
14 the purposes of this invention, a lens is defined as any device
15 capable of altering the character of transmitted or reflected
16 light, in accordance with specifically defined parameters, e.g.
17 lenticular parameters. The anti-counterfeiting software will
18 be used to match the lens parameters thereby providing an
19 encoding of a latent image or images(s) at least once, each
20 encoding being a function of the parameters of a section of the
21 decoding lens having specific frequency and/or lens curvature
22 parameters. The angle of the curvature further permits a lower
23 frequency, but when coupled to the double encoding, results in
24 an increased complexity to the encoded latent image. Further,

1 by modifying the curvature, the thickness of the lens
2 corresponding to a particular frequency can be modified
3 providing a paper thin lens. Thus, in one embodiment the
4 latent images can only be viewed through a multi-section lens
5 decoder having a section with parameters that corresponds to
6 each encoding. In another embodiment different latent images
7 found within the same image, can be decoded by use of multiple
8 lenses allowing different levels of security. As a result, the
9 inventor has significantly enhanced the anti-counterfeiting
10 aspect of his invention.

11

12 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

13 The present invention provides a software method and
14 apparatus for digitally encoding and incorporating latent
15 images having differing frequency readings into a source image,
16 and a lens having at least two sections adapted to recognize
17 distinct parameters, e.g. frequencies, for decoding of the
18 latent images. The latent images, as implemented by a computer
19 software program, are placed into a rasterized source image
20 such that the latent images are then readable only when viewed
21 through the multi-section lens decoder with particularly
22 modified parameters. Thus, each encoding is a function of the
23 particular parameters, for example lenticular parameters such
24 as the frequency and curvature of a particular lens section.

1 One or more latent images, in digitalized form, can be
2 encoded at least once for decoding by a variety of lenticular
3 lenses as selected by the user, with each lens having different
4 optical properties such as different line densities per inch
5 and/or different radius of curvature for the lenticular. The
6 properties of the encoded latent images are dependent upon the
7 parameters of the decoding lens. Thus, one latent image twice
8 encoded may include a first encoding dependent upon the
9 frequency and curvature radius of a first lens section and a
10 second encoded image may be based upon the corresponding
11 parameters of a second lens section. In another embodiment,
12 two or more latent images may be encoded into a source image
13 with each latent image being related to a lenticular parameters
14 of two or more separate lenses or sections thereof.

15 The curvature of the lenticular is modified such that the
16 frequency or lines per inch can be lowered but comparable to
17 high densities without the modified curvature. The inventor
18 has further intensified the complexity of the latent image by
19 having two or more encodings of the same or different images.
20 This requires a multi-section lens, one section per encoding.
21 In one embodiment, the resulting lens may be a relatively thick
22 lens capable of decoding complex latent images, or a lens
23 containing a plurality of sections, each having particular and
24 distinct lenticular parameters. Different degrees of encoding
25 might also be selected wherein the latent image is divided up

1 into a higher multiplicity of lines or elements. Again, for
2 decoding purposes, the multiplicity of elements would be a
3 function of the lens density and/or curvature.

4 When a latent image(s) is encoded for use with the instant
5 lens, a source image is rasterized, or divided up into a series
6 of lines equal in number to the lines making up the encoded
7 latent images. Generally, when hard copy images are printed,
8 the image is made up of a series of "printers dots" which vary
9 in density according to the colors found in the various
10 component parts of the image. A proprietary software program
11 takes the rasterized lines of the source image and reforms them
12 into the same general pattern as the lines of the encoded
13 latent images. As a result, where the source image is darker,
14 the encoded lines are formed proportionately thicker and
15 similarly where the source image is lighter, the encoded lines
16 are formed proportionately thinner. The subsequent combined
17 image appears to the naked eye to be simply the original source
18 image. However, since the component rasterized lines are
19 formed in the coded pattern of the encoded latent image(s), a
20 double lens decoder will reveal the underlying latent image(s).
21 Due to the high resolution needed for the complex encoded
22 lines, attempts to decode the printed image by other lens or
23 otherwise are generally unsuccessful in reproducing the
24 underlying multi-encoded latent image(s).

25 As a result of multi-section lenses, several latent

1 images, each corresponding to the parameters of a section of
2 ~~the lens, can be encoded~~ and then reformed into the rasterized
3 source image. Alternatively, the same latent image can be
4 encoded two or more times to correspond to the parameters of
5 the various sections of the lens and then reformed into the
6 rasterized source image. This is achieved by dividing the
7 rasterized lines into the appropriate number of images (or
8 phases) and interlacing the phased images in each raster line
9 element. Each individual latent image might be oriented at any
10 angle and encoded to a different degree, so long as the
11 encoding of each image is a functional multiple of the known
12 decoder frequency and curvature. Alternatively, the grey scale
13 source image might be divided up into primary component
14 printing colors (e.g. cyan, magenta, yellow, and black, or
15 CMYK; red, green, blue, or RGB). Single color bitmap formats
16 might also be used for certain applications. An encoded latent
17 image, or a multi-phased image, could then be individually
18 reformed into each component color. Upon rejoining of the
19 colors to form the final source image, the decoder will reveal
20 the different latent images hidden in the different color
21 segments.

22 The decoder includes at least two active decoding areas
23 which may define any combination of frequencies, radius of
24 curvatures, or angles between the frequencies, and may define
25 two or more sections.

1 Useful applications might include the latent encoding of
2 a person's signature inside a source image consisting of that
3 person's photograph. Such a technique would make it virtually
4 impossible to produce fake ID's or driver's licenses through
5 the common technique of replacing an existing picture with a
6 false one. Other vital information besides the person's
7 signature (e.g. height, weight, identification number, etc.)
8 might also be included in the latent image for encoding into
9 the source image.

10 Still other useful applications might include, but are not
11 limited to the following: credit cards, passports, photo-
12 identification cards, currency, special event tickets, stocks
13 and bond certificates, bank and travelers checks, anti-
14 counterfeiting labels (e.g. for designer clothes, drugs,
15 liquors, video tapes, audio CD's, cosmetics, machine parts, and
16 pharmaceuticals), tax and postage stamps, birth certificates,
17 vehicle restoration cards, land deed titles, and visas.

18 In any of the above examples, the same latent image may be
19 encoded two or more times at different frequencies, different
20 curvatures, or different angles or two or more latent images
21 may be encoded at the same frequency and curvature but with
22 different angles or with different frequencies and curvatures
23 and different angles. The criteria is that the encoded images
24 be a function of the parameters of the multi-sectioned decoder
25 such that each section's properties have a corresponding

1 encoded latent image.

2 Accordingly, it is an objective of the instant invention
3 to disclose a multi-layer or multi-sectioned lens for decoding
4 at least two encodings of at least one latent image rasterized
5 into a source image, each layer or section of the lens having
6 the ability to render visible a corresponding encoded image
7 that is a function of the parameters of that section.

8 Another objective of the present invention is to disclose
9 a multi-sectioned lens for decoding a corresponding encoded
10 latent image which is matched to the frequency and curvature of
11 each lens section, as implemented by a software program on a
12 computer system, typically in printed form.

13 Still another object of the present invention is to
14 disclose a multi-section lens for decoding at least two
15 encodings based upon the parameters of distinct lens sections
16 of at least one latent image, as implemented by a software
17 program on a computer system, wherein the source image is
18 converted into a grey scale image for incorporation of a latent
19 encoded image.

20 A related objective of the present invention is to
21 disclose a multi-section lens for decoding at least two
22 encodings based upon the parameters of distinct lens sections
23 of at least one latent image, as implemented by a software
24 program on a computer system, wherein the grey scale source

1 image is further separated out into its color parts for
2 possible incorporation of latent encoded images into each
3 component color part, with the parts being rejoined to form the
4 final encoded source image.

5 A related objective of the present invention is to
6 disclose a multi-section lens for decoding at least two
7 encodings based upon the parameters of distinct individual lens
8 sections of at least one latent image, as implemented by a
9 software program on a computer system, wherein the elemental
10 lines of the encoded image may be rotated or flipped about
11 their axis as necessary, or as selected by the user.

12 A further objective of the present invention is to
13 disclose a multi-section lens for decoding at least two
14 encodings based upon the parameters of distinct lens sections
15 of at least one latent image, as implemented by a software
16 program on a computer system, wherein the "single phased"
17 encoded image consists of a first latent image which has been
18 sliced and encoded as a function of a user selected decoder
19 density and encoding factor.

20 Yet another objective of the present invention is to
21 disclose a multi-section lens for decoding at least two
22 encodings based upon the parameters of distinct lens sections
23 of at least one latent image, as implemented by a software
24 program on a computer system, wherein the "two phased" encoded

1 image is sliced as a function of a user selected decoder
2 density, and each slice is halved into two sub-slices, and the
3 first and second latent images are alternately interlaced in
4 the sub-slices, with each latent image encoded by a user
5 selected encoding factor.

6 Still another objective of the present invention is to
7 disclose a multi-section lens for decoding at least two
8 encodings based upon the parameters of distinct lens sections
9 of at least one latent image, as implemented by a software
10 program on a computer system, wherein the "three phased"
11 encoded image is sliced as a function of a user selected
12 decoder density, and each slice is divided into three sub-
13 slices, and the first, second, and third latent images are
14 alternately interlaced in the sub-slices, with each latent
15 image encoded by a user selected encoding factor.

16 Yet another objective of the present invention is to
17 disclose a multi-section lens for decoding at least two
18 encodings based upon the parameters of distinct lens sections
19 of at least one latent image, as implemented by a software
20 program on a computer system, wherein an "indicia tint" is
21 produced which is similar to a two phased encoded image, but
22 with one source file, and every second sub-slice of the input
23 image is the complement of the first sub-slice.

24 A further objective of the present invention is to

1 disclose a multi-section lens for decoding at least two
2 encodings based upon the parameters of distinct lens sections
3 of at least one latent image, as implemented by a software
4 program on a computer system, wherein the source image consists
5 of a solid color or tint pattern with the encoded image
6 incorporated therein, but the elemental lines are flipped only
7 where a letter or object occurs in underlying latent image.

8 Still another objective of the present invention is to
9 disclose a multi-section lens for decoding at least two
10 encodings based upon the parameters of distinct lens sections
11 of at least one latent image, as implemented by a software
12 program on a computer system, wherein the latent image is
13 encoded directly into a certain visible figure on the source
14 image, thus creating a "hidden image" effect.

15 Yet another objective of the present invention is to
16 disclose a multi-section lens for decoding at least two
17 encodings based upon the parameters of distinct lens sections
18 of at least one latent image, as implemented by a software
19 program on a computer system, wherein a bitmap source image is
20 used (instead of a grey scale image) to create hidden images
21 behind single color source images or sections of source images.

22 Still another related objective of the present invention
23 is to disclose a multi-section lens for decoding at least two
24 encodings based upon the parameters of distinct lens sections

1 of at least one latent image, as implemented by a software
2 program on a computer system, wherein a multilevel, 3-
3 dimensional relief effect is decoded by decoding different
4 encoding parameters corresponding to the parameters of each
5 section.

6 Still another possible objective of the present invention
7 is to disclose a decoder lens having holographic images
8 produced through line diffraction techniques for indicating
9 authenticity of the lens.

10 Other objectives and advantages of this invention will
11 become apparent from the following description taken in
12 conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein are set
13 forth, by way of illustration and example, certain embodiments
14 of this invention. The drawings constitute a part of this
15 specification and include exemplary embodiments of the present
16 invention and illustrate various objects and features thereof.

17

18

1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

2 Figure 1 shows a cross section of a horizontal view of the
3 multi-section decoding lens and

4 Figure 2 shows the corrected lenticular of a first and
5 second section of the multi-section decoding lens.

6

1 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

2 Although the invention will be described in terms a
3 specific embodiment with certain alternatives, it will be
4 readily apparent to those skilled in this art that various
5 modifications, rearrangements and substitutions can be made
6 without departing from the spirit of the invention. The scope
7 of the invention is defined by the claims appended hereto.

8 How an object is viewed under a lens depends on the lens'
9 focal length and radius of curvature. As light passes through
10 a lens it undergoes two refractions. Refraction or bending of
11 light occurs as light passes from one medium to another when
12 there is a difference in the index of refraction between the
13 two materials. At the first surface, as the light enters the
14 lens, it passes from air into the plastic or glass. Then the
15 light travels through the lens. At the other side of the lens,
16 the light again refracts as it goes from the lens to air. The
17 surface of the lens may be curved in such a manner as to direct
18 the light in a certain direction. Within the lens itself there
19 may be modifications in the curvature to further refract the
20 light.

21 Now referring to Figure 1, shown is cross section of a
22 horizontal view of the multi-section decoding lens. A ray of
23 light (10) enters a curvature (12) of a second lens (14). The
24 curvature (12) has been modified to refract the light (10) to

1 a predetermined angle. Thus, the light is redirected in a
2 specific manner to decode a correlated second latent encoded
3 image (22) embedded in a rasterized source image in an object
4 (24). The light (10) then passes to a first lens (16) with a
5 different radius of curvature (18) that refracts the light (10)
6 a second time. The light (10) passing through the first lens
7 (14) decodes a correlated first latent encoded image (20)
8 imbedded in a rasterized source image in a document (24).

9 The inventor has discovered that by modifying the radius
10 of curvature, a lower frequency may be employed. The modified
11 curvature coupled with such double encoding generates an
12 increased complexity to the encoded latent image. Further, by
13 modifying the curvature, the thickness of the lens
14 corresponding to a particular frequency can be increased by
15 three. As a result, a lower frequency can be employed but the
16 decoding lens remains dense and thus of practical use for
17 decoding increasingly complex encoded latent images. Further,
18 by utilizing multi-sectioned lenses and thus multi-encoding,
19 the complexity of the encoded latent images is significantly
20 enhanced making counterfeiting of an object and reproduction of
21 the multi-section decoding lens increasingly untenable.

22 Now referring to Figure 2, shown is a corrected lenticular
23 of a first and second section of a multi-section decoding lens.
24 The first section (10), the bottom section, shows a 300 line

1 corrected lenticular 10 degree angle lens with a direction of
2 105 degrees. The modifiable parameters of a section are its
3 frequency and curvature. Thus, the frequency of the lens is
4 300 lines per inch and the curvature is 10 degrees causing the
5 light to be directed 105 degrees. The second section (12), the
6 top section, shows a 250.1 line lenticular 30 degree angle lens
7 with a direction of 15 degrees. The inventor's software
8 program will scramble a latent image and then embed that latent
9 image into a rasterized source image. The program will
10 correlate the first encoding of the latent image to correspond
11 to the parameters of the first lens and the second latent image
12 to correspond to the parameters of the second lens. Thus, the
13 encoding of the latent image is a function of the frequency and
14 curvature of a particular lens. The software can be programed
15 to scramble the same latent image at least twice or to scramble
16 different images. The double encoding permits an elevated
17 level of security not previously available making
18 counterfeiting of objects incorporating this invention much
19 more arduous. Further, reproduction of the multi-section lens
20 decoder would require knowledge of the radius of curvature and
21 frequency for all sections, a formidable task which renders
22 such reproduction problematic.

23 An expected application of the present invention is where
24 multi-levels of security are needed. For example, a company

1 will issue a standard decoder lens to all employees. The first
2 section of the multi-section lens will allow an employee access
3 to all minimum security areas. Employees with authority to
4 enter maximum security areas would have a second section with
5 parameters different than those of the first section allowing
6 a second latent image to be decoded whereas those without
7 authority would have a second section with the same parameters
8 as the first section and the second image could not be decoded.
9 Thus, to gain entrance to maximum security, the authorized
10 employee must have a decoder capable of unencoding both latent
11 images. The decoder may contain the employees signature or
12 picture to prevent unauthorized use. Additionally, a hologram
13 may be imprinted in the decoding lens for visual verification
14 of the authenticity of the decoder itself.

15 The Encoded Indicia process involves rasterizing, or
16 dividing up into lines, a source or visible image according to
17 the frequency (or density) of a lenticular decoder lens. The
18 number of lines is also a function of the encoding factor, or
19 zoom factor, as applied to a latent or secondary image. After
20 the latent image is processed and encoded, a set of encoded
21 lines exists which can then be combined into the rasterized
22 lines of the visible image. The visible image is thus
23 reformed, or re-rasterized, according to the pattern of the
24 encoded latent image lines. Where the visible image is darker,

1 the encoded lines are made proportionately thicker in re-
2 forming the rasterized lines of the visible image; similarly,
3 where the visible image is lighter, the encoded lines are made
4 proportionately thinner. As a result, a new visible image is
5 created, but with the encoded, latent, pattern being visible
6 "underneath" when viewed through a transparent decoder lens.

7 As for lens density, the inventor has assigned reference
8 names to lenses with various frequencies (or line densities per
9 inch), including for instance, the following: D-7X with 177
10 lines/inch; D-7 with 152.5 lines/inch; D-6 with 134 lines/inch;
11 D-9 with 69 lines/inch. (See reference 6). The software for
12 performing this process also provides an "x2" (or doubling
13 factor, df) option which doubles the effective line density,
14 and hence divides the output image up into twice as many
15 slices. The resulting image will still be decodable by the
16 selected lens because the number of lines is an even multiple
17 of the frequency of the lens.

18 The output image slice, having width h , is processed as a
19 function of the input slice width i (see reference 8). In
20 turn, width i is a function of width h , the lens density, and
21 a base code factor (or encoding factor) as selected by the
22 user.

23

24

1 These formulas are as follows:

2 df = 2 (if "x2" selected); 1 (by default)
3 o = h*density/100 (See reference 10)
4 i = o*base code(B) (See reference 8)

5
6 Rearranging these formulas, the value for h becomes:

7
8 (1/B)*100
9 h = -----
10 Density*df
11

12 Hence, as the value for the base code and/or the density is
13 increased, the width h will decrease. A larger base code, or
14 encoding factor, therefore creates more lines and results in a
15 more distorted or encoded image.

16 This effect will allow the latent image to be visible only
17 when viewed through a decoder. Additionally, the latent image
18 might consist of a one, two, or three multi-phased images as
19 created using previous interface screens for multi-phased
20 images and saved in an appropriate file.
21 inventor refers to this technique as Encoded Micro Lines.

22 All patents and publications mentioned in this
23 specification are indicative of the levels of those skilled in
24 the art to which the invention pertains. All patents and
25 publications are herein incorporated by reference to the same
26 extent as if each individual publication was specifically and
27 individually indicated to be incorporated by reference.

28 One skilled in the art will readily appreciate that the
29 present invention is well adapted to carry out the objectives

1 and obtain the ends and advantages mentioned, as well as those
2 inherent therein. The methods, procedures and techniques
3 described herein are presently representative of the preferred
4 embodiments, are intended to be exemplary and are not intended
5 as limitations on the scope. Changes therein and other uses
6 will occur to those skilled in the art which are encompassed
7 within the spirit of the invention and are defined by the scope
8 of the appended claims. Although the invention has been
9 described in connection with specific preferred embodiments, it
10 should be understood that the invention as claimed should not
11 be unduly limited to such specific embodiments. Indeed, various
12 modifications of the described modes for carrying out the
13 invention which are obvious to those skilled in the art are
14 intended to be within the scope of the following claims.

15

1

2

CLAIMS

3

4 What is claimed is:

5 Claim 1. An authenticity verification apparatus
6 comprising;

7 a lens including at least a first section and a second
8 section, each said section containing distinct lenticular
9 parameters,

10 said first section being constructed and arranged for
11 decoding a first encoded latent image;

12 said second section being constructed and arranged for
13 decoding a second encoded latent image;

14 whereby the authenticity of an object containing plural
15 latent images, each defined by a distinct set of lenticular
16 parameters, may be verified.

17

18 Claim 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein each set of
19 distinct parameters include frequency and radius of curvature
20 of a lens section.

21

22 Claim 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said encoded
23 latent images are embedded in a rasterized source image.

24

1 Claim 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said parameters
2 of said at least first and said second sections are identical.

3

4 Claim 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said parameters
5 of said at least first and said second sections are dissimilar.

6

7 Claim 6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said at least
8 first and said second latent images are the same image.

9

10 Claim 7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said apparatus
11 has at least three lens sections, each said section being
12 defined by a distinct set of lenticular parameters.

13

14 Claim 8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein a hologram is
15 embedded into said lens of said apparatus.

16

17 Claim 9. A method for authenticating an object containing
18 encoded images comprising;

19 selecting at least first set of distinct lenticular
20 parameters;

21 selecting at least a second set of distinct lenticular
22 parameters;

23 creating a multi-section decoding lens by incorporating
24 said at least first set of parameters within a first section of

1 said lens and incorporating said at least second set of
2 parameters within a second section of said;
3 inputting each said set of parameters into a software
4 program;
5 encoding, via said software program, at least a first
6 latent image as a function of said parameters of said first
7 lens section;
8 encoding, via said software program, at least a second
9 latent image as a function of said parameters of said second
10 lens section;
11 rasterizing, via said software program, a source image;
12 combining, via said software program, said at least first
13 and said second encoded latent images with said rasterized
14 source image;
15 encoding an object by imprinting said latent images within
16 said source image onto said object; and
17 verifying authenticity of said object by decoding said at
18 least first and said second latent images with said multi-
19 section decoding lens.

20

21 Claim 10. The method of claim 9 wherein each set of
22 distinct parameters include a particular frequency and radius
23 of curvature of a lens section.

24

1 Claim 11. The method of claim 9 wherein said parameters
2 of said at least first and said second lens section are
3 identical.

4

5 Claim 12. The method of claim 9 wherein said parameters
6 of said at least first and said second lens section are
7 dissimilar.

8

9 Claim 13. The method of claim 9 wherein said at least
10 first and said second latent images are the same image.

11

12 Claim 14. The method of claim 9 wherein said at least
13 first and said second latent image are different images.

14

15 Claim 15. The method of claim 9 wherein said multi-section
16 decoding lens has at least three lens sections, said sections
17 each having a particular set of distinct lenticular parameters.

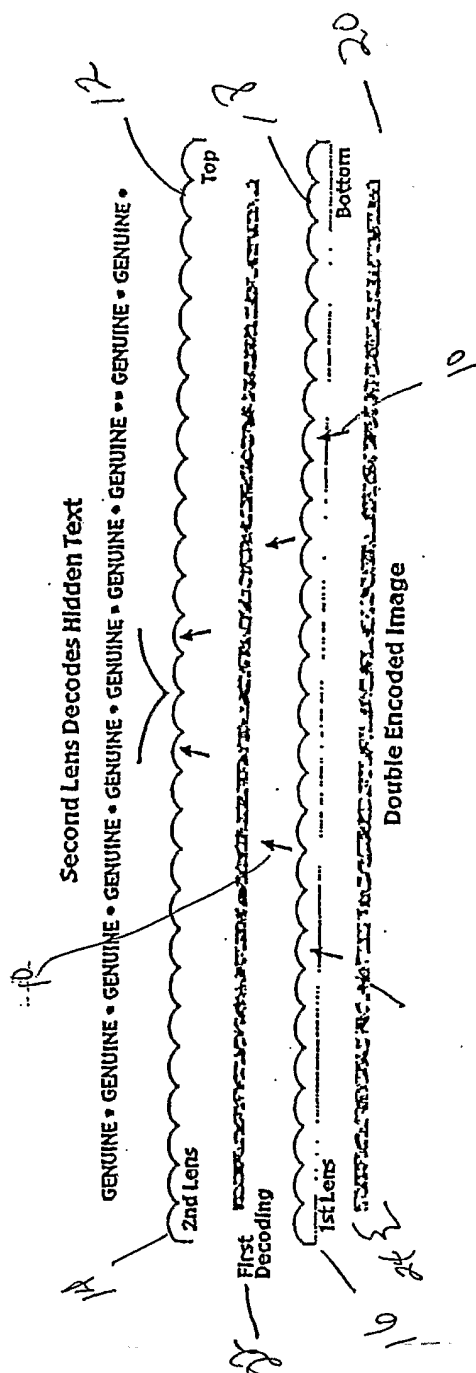


FIG. 1

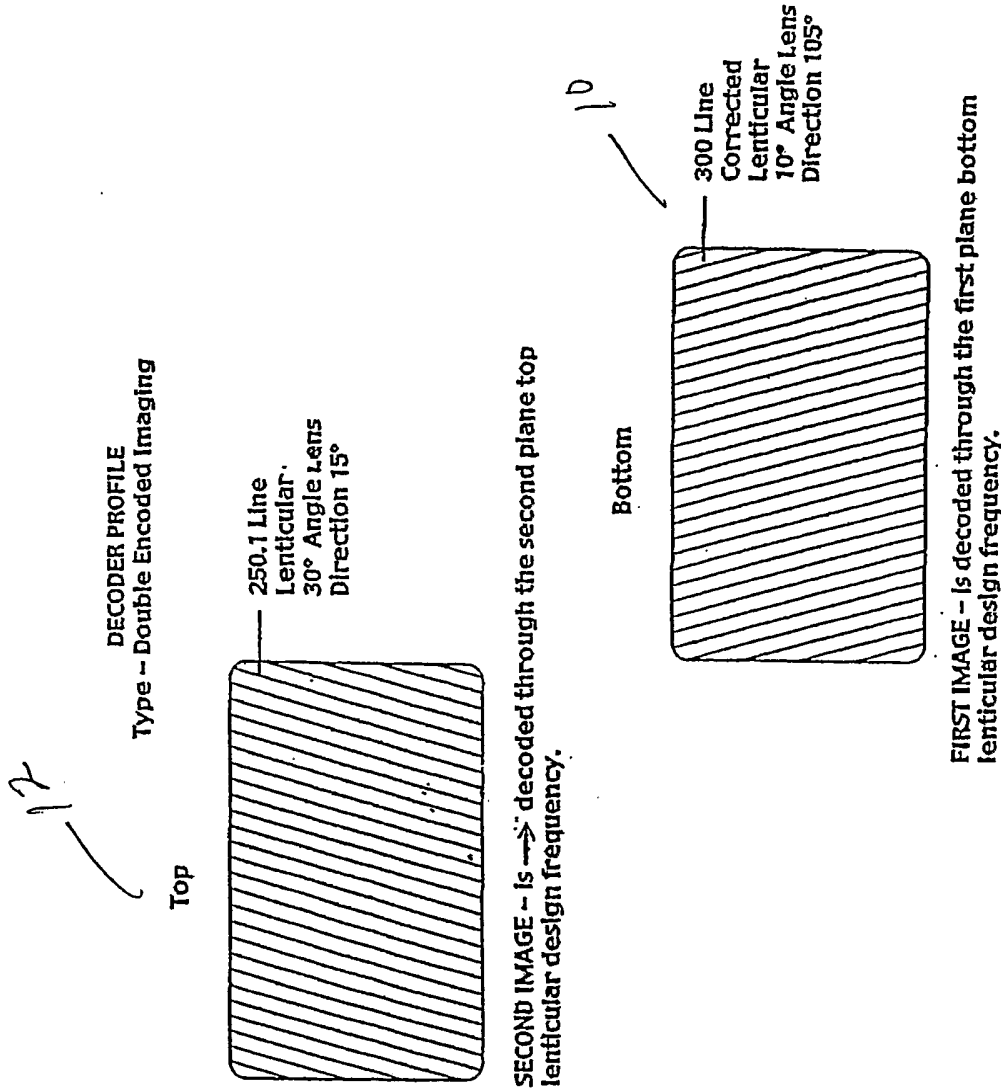


FIG. 2

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/17750

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G09C 5/00

US CL : 380/54

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : Please See Continuation Sheet

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,708,717 A (ALASIA) 13 January 1998 (13.01.1998), column 2, lines 7-14, 18-20, and 54-57; column 8, lines 59-64; column 9, lines 21-24, 33-34, and 42-44; figure 11, item 64; figure 12A, steps 134, 136, 160, and 162; and figure 12B, step 110.	1-7, 9-15
---		8
Y		
X	US 6,104,812 A (KOLTAI et al.) 15 August 2000 (15.08.2000), column 4, lines 25-28; column 7, lines 11-16; column 11, lines 14-16; column 12, lines 8-10, 14-15, and 20-30; column 14, lines 15-17 and 32-35; figure 13, items 1300 and 1318B; figure 14A, step 1450; and figure 17, items 1700, 1704, 1708, 1716, and 1718.	1-7, 9-15
---		8
Y		
Y	WO 92/04692 A1 (AMBLE-HURST LIMITED) 19 March 1992 (19.03.1992), page 15, lines 26-28; page 16, lines 11-127; and figure 1.	8
A	EP 1 147 912 A2 (SECURENCY PTY. LTD.) 24 October 2001 (24.10.2001), column 11, lines 51-58; column 12, lines 1-9; and figure 8, patterns 41 and 42.	1-15

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T"

later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

01 September 2003 (01.09.2003)

Date of mailing of the international search report

17 SEP 2003

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US03/17750

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 1:

IPC (7) : G09C 3/10, 5/00; G03B 27/68

US CL : 380/43, 51, 54, 55, 59; 283/17; 355/52

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

EAST (USPAT; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; US-PGPUB), DIALOG

search terms: counterfeit, fake, alter, phony, tamper, document, indicia, ticket, passport, currency, money, label, ID, license, signature, authenticate, verify, confirm, validate, image, graphic, optical, object, pattern, lens, lenticular, curvature, frequency, period, periodicity, two, second, different, additional, alternate supplement, multiple, encode, decode, scramble, descramble, unscramble, raster, divide, division, separate, lines, segments